Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of simultaneously detecting at least one Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) antigen and at least one HCV antibody in a test sample comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting said test sample with:

1) at least one HCV antigen or portion thereof coated on a solid phase, for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes; and

2) at least one antibody to HCV or portion thereof coated on said solid phase, to which said at least one HCV antigen or portion thereof is also coated, for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antigen/antibody complexes; and

(b) detecting presence of said antibody/antigen complexes, presence of said antibody/antigen complexes indicating presence of said at least one HCV antibody in said test sample and detecting presence of said antigen/antibody complexes, presence of said antigen/antibody complexes indicating presence of said at least one HCV antigen in said test sample.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one HCV antigen coated on the solid phase is selected from the group consisting of core antigen, NS3, NS4, NS5 and portions thereof.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 2 wherein said at least one antibody coated on said solid phase is a monoclonal antibody selected from the group consisting of 13-959-270, 14-1269-281, 14-1287-252, 14-153-234, 14-153-462, 14-1705-225, 14-1708,269, 14-1708-403, 14-178-125, 14-188-104, 14-283-112, 14-635-225, 14-

726-217, 14-886-216, 14-947-104, 14-945-218, 107-35-54, 110-81-17, 13-975-157, 14-1350-210~~, C11-3, C11-7, C11-10, C11-14~~ and C11-15.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein said at least one antibody coated on the solid phase is not reactive with said at least one antigen coated on the solid phase.

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one antibody is a HCV anti-core monoclonal antibody and said at least one antigen is a recombinant HCV core protein.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said recombinant core protein does not contain epitopes to which said anti-core monoclonal antibody binds.

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method for simultaneously detecting the presence of at least one HCV antigen and at least one HCV antibody in a test sample comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting said test sample with: 1) at least one HCV antigen or portion thereof coated on a solid phase, for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes and 2) at least one HCV antibody or portion thereof coated on said solid phase, for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antigen/antibody complexes, wherein said at least one antibody coated on said solid phase is C11-14;

(b) adding a conjugate to the resulting antibody/antigen complexes of (a)(1) for a time and under conditions sufficient to allow said conjugate to bind to the bound antibody in (a)(1), wherein said conjugate comprises a second antibody attached to a chemiluminescent compound capable of generating a detectable signal, wherein said second antibody is C11-10; and simultaneously adding a second conjugate to the resulting antigen/antibody complexes of (a)(2) for a time and under conditions

sufficient to allow said conjugate to bind to the bound antigen in (a)(2), wherein said conjugate comprises a third antibody attached to said chemiluminescent compound capable of generating a detectable signal; and

(c) detecting a single generated signal, presence of said signal indicating presence of said at least one HCV antigen, at least one HCV antibody, or both, in said test sample.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8 wherein said at least one HCV antigen coated on the solid phase is selected from the group consisting of core antigen, NS3, NS4, NS5, and portions thereof.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A kit comprising:

a container containing: 1) at least one HCV antigen coated on a solid phase and 2) at least one HCV antibody, coated on said solid phase, wherein said at least one HCV antibody is selected from the group consisting of 13-959-270, 14-1269-281, 14-1287-252, 14-153-234, 14-153-462, 14-1705-225, 14-1708,269, 14-1708-403, 14-178-125, 14-188-104, 14-283-112, 14-635-225, 14-726-217, 14-886-216, 14-947-104, 14-945-218, 107-35-54, 110-81-17, 13-975-157, 14-1350-210 and C11-15.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The kit of claim 13 further comprising at least one conjugate comprising a signal-generating compound attached to an antibody.

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A recombinant protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:16, and conservative amino acid substitutions thereof.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): A recombinant protein comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of, for example, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:11 and SEQ ID NO:15.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): A vector or construct comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:11 and SEQ ID NO:15.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A host cell comprising said vector or construct of claim 20.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (new): A kit comprising a container containing: 1) at least one HCV antigen coated on a solid phase and 2) one HCV antibody coated on said solid phase, wherein said one HCV antibody is C11-14.

Claim 24 (new): The kit of claim 23 further comprising at least one conjugate comprising a signal-generating compound attached to an antibody.

Claim 25 (new): The kit of claim 23 wherein said antibody is C11-10.